Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 063031
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SUBJECT:1977 ANNUAL REPORT

1. FOR GOVERNOR COLEMAN. PLS PASS TO NEAL CORBETT. WITH FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS YOU MAY PRINT PREFACE TO 1977 ANNUAL REPORT. PARA ONE OK;IN PARA TWO CHANGE LAST SENTENCE TO READ: I FOUND MANY PROBLEMS WHICH SHOULD NOT HAVE EXISTED CONSIDERING THE GENEROSITY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS. ADD NEW PARA THREE TO READ: THE FINANCIAL RECORDS OF THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT WERE IN SUCH COMPLETE CHAOS THAT THERE WAS NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER THE TERRITORY HAD A SEVERAL MILLION DOLLAR SURPLUS OR AN EQUALLY LARGE DEFICIT. THE PHYSICAL FACILITIES OF THE IS-LANDS THAT HAD BEEN BUILT SO ECONOMICALLY AND PROUDLY BY THE SAMOANS DURING THE SIXTIES HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO DETERIORATE THROUGH LACK OF MAINTENANCE. THE BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT WAS THE APPARENT SLOWDOWN IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM. WHILE THE EDUCATIONAL TV SYSTEM THAT WAS MAKING SUCH PROGRESS IN THE SIXTIES HAD ALL OF THE CHILDREN NOW SPEAKING ENGLISH, THE SYSTEM HAD BEEN DOWNGRADED TO THE

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POINT WHERE THE OVERALL EDUCATIONAL LEVEL IS IMPROVING VERY SLOWLY IF AT ALL.

AFTER NEW PARA THREE, ADD THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL PARA-GRAPHS WHICH BECOME FOUR AND FIVE, TO READ:

PARAGRAPH 4. WHILE MOST OF THE ABOVE PROBLEMS ARE ASSOCI-

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ATED WITH THE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP, I FOUND THAT THE LEGISLATURE HAD CONTINUED TO GROW IN STATURE AND RESPONSIBILITY.

PARAGRAPH 5. IN THE BRIEF PERIOD FROM JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1977, THE FONO ENACTED MANY SOUND PIECES OF LEGISLATION PREPARING FOR AN ELECTIVE GOVERNOR AND OTHER DESIRABLE MEASURES. THEIR INDEPENDENT THINKING PLUS THEIR ABILITIES AND INDUSTRY COMBINED WITH THOSE OF THEIR OWN ELECTED GOVERNORS HOLD PROMISE FOR A GREATLY IMPROVED GOVERNMENT FOR THE YEARS TO COME.

YOUR ORIGINAL PARAGRAPH FOUR REMAINS BUT NOW BECOMES PARAGRAPH SIX. YOUR ORIGINAL PARA FIVE, NOW PARAGRAPH SEVEN, SHOULD READ: WHEN I FIRST CAME TO SAMOA AS GOVERNOR IN 1961, WE WERE FACING THE PROSPECTS OF HOSTING THE SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE IN 1962. THERE WASN'T A GREAT DEAL WE COULD SHOW OFF WITH PRIDE, BUT WITH THE ENORMOUS ABILITY AND INDUSTRY OF THE SAMOAN PEOPLE AND WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND THE U.S. CONGRESS, WE CREATED A CONFERENCE SITE WHICH DREW THE PRAISE AND ADMIRATION OF DELEGATES FROM THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC. NO CHANGES IN ORIGINAL PARAGRAPHS SIX AND SEVEN WHICH NOW ARE EIGHT AND NINE. IN YOUR PARA EIGHT, NOW TEN, DELETE THE WORD OTHER BETWEEN TO AND HIGHLY-QUALIFIED IN FIRST LINE. CHANGE LAST SENTENCE TO READ: MR. CARVER SERVED AS MY

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IN MEETING THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS AHEAD, AND MR. PRATT SPEARHEADED THE JOB OF PHYSICALLY RESTORING AMERICAN SAMOA, AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, TO ITS 1960'S CONDITION. NO CHANGES IN YOUR ORIGINAL PARAGRAPHS NINE AND TEN, NOW ELEVEN AND TWELVE.

IN YOUR PARAGRAPH ELEVEN, NOW THIRTEEN, ADD PHRASE: AND THE ENTIRE SOUTH PACIFIC AREA, AT THE END OF FIRST

SENTENCE. REST OF PARAGRAPH UNCHANGED.

CHANGE YOUR PARAGRAPH TWELVE, NOW FOURTEEN, TO READ: THE BRIEF DEMONSTRATION WAS THE FIRST STEP IN WHAT MIGHT WELL BECOME A SATELLITE PROGRAM WHICH WOULD BRING AMERICAN SAMOA ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS WITH THE REST OF THE STATES AND TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES FROM BOTH AN EDUCATIONAL AND ENTERTAINMENT STANDPOINT AND ASSIST GREATLY IN OUR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. NO CHANGE IN LAST PARAGRAPH, YOUR ORIGINAL THIRTEEN, NOW FIFTEEN IN REVISION. END CHANGES. PLEASE ADVISE WHEN ADVANCE PRINTING WILL BE AVAILABLE. MRS. RUTH G. VAN CLEVE, DIRECTOR, OTA, SENDS. VANCE

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